

Emergency Message for American Citizens on Demonstrations on April 28, 2012

The Malaysian media has reported that a large demonstration is likely to occur in Kuala Lumpur on Saturday, April 28. The coalition known as Bersih has stated its intention to assemble at five locations (Masjid Jamek, Pasar Seni, Jalan Sultan, Masjid Negara, and Brickfields) and walk to Dataran Merdeka (aka Merdeka or Independence Square) in central Kuala Lumpur where it plans to hold a rally. The situation remains uncertain, and large gatherings are possible in or near these locations. The Malaysian media has also reported that the police have already cordoned off Dataran Merdeka. Even if demonstrations do not occur, traffic may be disrupted through the weekend.

The Malaysian media report that there will be a similar demonstration in Penang at the Speaker's Square in Esplanade from 2 pm until 5 pm on April 28. Demonstrations may also take place in the following states: Sabah (Kota Kinabalu), Pahang (Kuantan), Perak (Ipoh) Johor, Melaka, and Negeri Sembilan.

Under Malaysian law it is illegal for non-citizens or people younger than 15 to participate in demonstrations. You should avoid them if at all possible. Be alert and pay attention to local news media for updates. The Embassy reminds U.S. citizens that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can become violent and unpredictable.

U.S. citizens who travel to or reside in Malaysia are encouraged to enroll in the [State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#). By enrolling, you make it easier for the U.S. Embassy to contact you in case of an emergency. Stay up to date by bookmarking our [Bureau of Consular Affairs website](#), which contains the current [Travel Warnings](#) and [Travel Alerts](#) as well as the [Worldwide Caution](#). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on [Facebook](#). You can also download our free [Smart Traveler iPhone App](#) to have travel information at your fingertips.

The U.S. Embassy is located at 376 Jalan Tun Razak, 50400 Kuala Lumpur and can be contacted at:

Phone (24/7): 03-2168-5000

Fax: 03-2148-5801

Website: <http://malaysia.usembassy.gov>

E-Mail: klacs@state.gov